

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1 and 6; rejected claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,292 to Roddy et al. ("Roddy"); rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,038,258 to Koch et al. ("Koch"); rejected claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch in view of Roddy; and indicated claims 3, 7, and 8 as containing allowable subject matter.

By this amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, has amended claim 6 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7, and has amended claim 8 to place it in independent form. Applicant has canceled claims 2-5, 7, and 9-10. Claims 1, 6, and 8 thus remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 7, and 8.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1 and 6, stating: "'the image', being first introduced should be addressed as --an image--." Office Action, p. 2. The amendments to claims 1 and 6 have incorporated the Examiner's suggestion, and Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 1 and 6 be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Roddy; the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Koch; and the rejection of claims 9-10 under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch in view of Roddy. Applicant notes that the Examiner's rejection is moot with respect to canceled claims 2, 4, 5, and 9-10. In addition, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 to incorporate the subject matter of claims 3 and 7, respectively. Since the Examiner indicated that claims 3 and 7 contained allowable subject matter, amended claims 1 and 6 are also allowable.

Applicant submits that pending claims 1, 6, and 8 recite subject matter not taught by the art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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